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ABSTRACT

The first of three syllabuses for a three-year Russian course designed for students beginning in grade 9 outlines general objectives of the program and of the 15 lessons which comprise the first year's instruction. The lessons are organized around reading exercises which focus on development of common expressions, vocabulary, and grammar. For the companion documents see FL 002 207 and FL 002 208. (RL)

ED050630

CHINESE-RUSSIAN STUDY CENTER
Toledo Public Schools
Toledo, Ohio

Syllabus for use in Russian Language I
as prepared by Jevgenij Cernonok, 1968-1969

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, EDUCATION & WELFARE
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FL002 206

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Three year course in Russian language at the Chinese-Russian Study Center with the first year of study beginning grade 9 or above.

The program is subject to revision and refinement on the basis of experience of competent Russian teachers in the classroom.

Objectives and Goals to be Reached

The four skills to be developed in the language study are listening comprehension, speaking, reading, and writing.

Listening Comprehension

The student should understand the Russian language as it is spoken by native speakers in situations similar to his own experience. The student should be able to understand conversations based on everyday situations about his questions, about his usual activities in and out of school, stories, brief descriptions of historical and current events, discussions about famous people past and present, passages from plays, books, and periodicals suited to his age level.

Speaking

The student should speak the Russian language in everyday situations with reasonable fluency and correctness, and with pronunciation acceptable to a native speaker; also, he should be able to ask familiar questions, to retell simple stories, to describe historical and current events with which he is familiar.

Reading

The student should read the Russian easily with and without translation. The student should be able to read books and periodicals appropriate to his age level (novels, short stories, poetry, geography, science). The student should

read rapidly for the sense of the story and more deliberately for fuller understanding.

Writing

The student should be able to write descriptions, reports, and informal letters with reasonable clarity and correctness. The student should be able to communicate in writing anything he can say: write simple dialogue and compositions dealing with his own experiences or with other topics.

Familiarity with Russian Cultures

The student should come to realize that language is the essential expression of a people's behavior and outlooks. Mastery of the skills will be accompanied by familiarity with the culture. Students should accept the fact that other peoples attach to their different way of life the same importance he attaches to his. Understanding this he will arrive at a more realistic approach to life and, consequently, a more profound appreciation of other culture systems and of his own. The fact that it is a matter of serious importance to people of other cultures that we try to speak this language is of great significance.

Visual Materials

Visual materials also will be introduced. Films, filmstrips, pictures, Russian postal stamps, magazines and newspapers, Russian music, folksongs.

Reading

From the beginning, the student will read only what he has already learned to understand and say. There are certain "rules" to be observed during this stage:

1. The student reads only what he has already learned through ears and tongue. This material he can read and understand without recourse to English equivalents. The student's early reading is carefully controlled; he can read directly in the foreign language without translating into English. Systematic translation from Russian into English is to be avoided as much as possible.
2. The material which has been read will be discussed. Reading comprehension will be exercised by repetition of most of the words of the question. The teacher asks (in the foreign language) and the student replies in full rather than minimal answers. Paraphrase -- changing from the first person to the third person, from present to past, etc.
3. The text to be read should be suited to the intellectual maturity of the students.
4. Reading in class and extensive reading which will be assigned in class and the text should be analyzed and explained.

Authenticity of Reading Matter

In reading material students will learn the similarities as well as the significant differences between his culture and the Russian. The readings will also be chosen on the economic and social life of Russia. Some of this reading

can be correlated with work in other classes, particularly art, music, and social science.

Writing

Russian writing will be started with the letters and letters elements. At the first stage the student will write only what he has already learned to understand, speak, and read. Straight copying of a Russian text, after this follows dictations guided composition on an assigned topic, and, free composition.

Grammar

In grammar the students should be informed of the reasons why he can profit from an abstract statement and a generalization but teacher should avoid extremes: One is to give the rules instead of the language, and the other is to refuse the students any generalization.

Understanding of the Russian Culture

Russian like any language in the world is both the major vehicle of culture and the most important aspect of culture. The history of the Russian language reflects the development of the Russian people. During this course of Russian the following will be mentioned and introduced to the students.

1. Russian alphabet (Cyril and Methodius)
2. Linguistic similarity of the various Slavic nations.
3. Old Slavic language. (Church Slavic)
4. First written language of Kievan Russia.
5. Words borrowed from Tartars.
6. Reign of Peter the Great and new Russian alphabet.
7. Lomonsov and the first Russian grammar
8. French influence and Russian educated upper class 18, 19 century.
9. Pushkin and national language of Russia.
10. Soviet Russian language. Abbreviated forms of words or acronyms and initials. Certain words, the meaning of which change with the function of the words.
11. Russian words with variable currency in the vocabulary of English speaking people. Example: duma, sputnik, troika, tundra.

Ethnic Groups

Within the Soviet Union live some 140 ethnic groups in 16 republics.

1. U. S. A. "melting pot" and Soviet ethnic groups.
2. Ukrainian, the largest ethnic unit.

3. The Georgians and Turko-Tartar people.
4. Latvian, Estonian and Lithuanian ethnic groups.

Religion

1. Russian Orthodox Church till 1918
2. After 1918, Peter I and Procurator of the Holy Synod; Church controlled by the State
3. 1941 the government used the church to bolster morale, nationalities and isolation.
4. The church and the Russian language.

History

1. Peoples and races which have lived and settled at the present-day Russia. Slavs, Finns, Tartars, Varangians (Vikings), and Mongols.
2. Ancient city of Novgorod.
3. Early Kievan history and acceptance of Christianity from Byzantium.
4. Invasion of Russia by the Golden Horde.
5. The first Romanov (1613)
6. Peter the Great, the first Russian newspaper and public theater.
7. Alexander II -- the Lincoln of Russia
8. 1917 Revolution

Literature

The eighteenth century--age of classicism. Russian language and Mikhail Lomonsov and Ivan Krylov. The nineteenth century--"The Golden Age" of Russian literature. Russian greatest poet Alexander Pushkin. A. Pushkin and Russian language. Russian musical compositions which are based on the works

by Pushkin--"Boris Godunov," "Eugene Onegin" and Pushkin, Lermontov--represented the Romantic movement in the Russian literature.

Nikolai Gogol's realism in the world.

Ivan Turgenev, the most expressive spokesman for Western ideas.

Fyodor Dostoevsky--Slavophile illustrated the Russian character at its best and its worst.

Leo Tolstoy--the most famous Russian realist.

Anton Chekhov--dramatist and short story writer.

Maxim Gorky--realist who served as a bridge between the Old Russian culture and the new Soviet ideas.

Majority of the Soviet writers devote their efforts toward directing attention to the economic goals of the government.

Art

1. Byzantine influence until the eighteenth century.
2. Secular art under Peter I. Peter invited artists from other countries and send Russians abroad to study.
3. The nineteenth century classicism Ilya Repin.
4. "Futurists" after the Revolution. Government approval took over the direction of art.

Music

1. The Byzantine character of music in Russian Orthodox liturgy.
2. The Russian nationalistic music--Mikhail Glinka (19th Century) harmony. This is to me when

Russian music lost much of its originality and power.

4. Peter T. Tchaikovsky the best known Russian composer. Tchaikovsky did much to popularize Russian ballet music: "Swan Lake," etc.

Science

Peter the Great founded the Academy of Sciences in 1724 and brought world fame to Russia. Benjamin Franklin and Einstein were not the only foreign members of the Academy. I. M. Lomonsov first Russian scientist. This scholarly writings on chemistry, astronomy, metallurgy and other subjects.

The nineteenth century scientific progress:

1. Mathematicians N. I. Lobachevsky, founder of non-Euclidian geometry.
2. Dimitri Mendeleyev and his periodic table of the elements predicted and described accurately new elements.
3. The world famous biologists: Metchnikov, Michurin, Pavlov.
4. Soviet Science
   A. Blagonravov (of Sputnik Fame)
   A. Tupolev jet plane designer.

Objectives for the First Year Russian

1. To develop a basic vocabulary of 800-1000 words and approximately 70 idioms.
2. To enrich student's experience in the language use through supplementary reading and oral expression.
3. To teach basic declension, function of the perfective aspect, declension of personal pronouns, ordinals and cardinal numerals.
4. To develop ability to understand simple Russian sentences and paragraphs when spoken.
5. To be able to write correctly simple sentences and paragraphs at dictation.
6. To give some basic knowledge of the life and customs of Russian people.

Content and Topics for Audio-Lingual Experiences

The students concentrate on concrete situations in their immediate environment. The use of the vocabulary and structures of the basic text be employed. Dialogues, or questions, answers, and statements incorporated into brief conversational sequences will include a selection of expressions relative to: Polite expressions, greetings, classroom routines, introductions, identification of objects and persons, placement of objects and persons, descriptions of objects, places, and persons within the level of learning. Activities and actions within the context of the topic. Time of the occurence in terms of hour of the day, parts of the day, days of the week, month of the year, seasons, weather. Comparisons of persons, things, places. General health practice--diet, hygiene, etc.

Materials

1) Textbook to be used

Essentials of Russian

by A. V. Gronicka and H. Bates-Yakobson

and

Graded Russian Reader (For the second semester only)

Part I by Green and Ward

2) Additional material

Language Laboratory: Tapes will be used for comprehension and pronunciation.

Songs: Four Russian folk songs to be learned in class.

Slides: National minorities of Russia would be studied in class.

Postal Stamps: Collection of Russian postal stamps will be shown in class.

Magazines and Newspapers: Second semester students will read and discuss Russian papers and magazines.

The Textbook

The textbook is divided into thirty lessons preceded by two introductory units which set for the Russian printed and written letters and give their approximate phonetic values. Each lesson is divided into seven closely interrelated parts:

I. Common Expressions and Idioms

II. Reading Exercise

III. Vocabulary

IV. Grammar

V. Questions

VI. Grammar Exercises

VII. Translation into Russian

The two introductory lessons contain a brief analysis of the Russian sound system.

The Reading Exercises

The Reading Exercises are the core around which each lesson is organized. They contain all the new grammar and vocabulary introduced in each lesson. A basic principle of the text is to introduce the student to all new material first in the context of the Reading Exercise; and only when it has been read and generally understood, have him turn to the explanation and systematic treatment of the material given in the grammar section and the vocabulary. The Reading Exercises are carefully graded and lead the student from the simple dialogue of the first lesson to selection from the works of N. Nekrassov and L. Tolstoi.

The Common Expressions

The common expressions and idioms should be memorized and applied in short conversations between students.

The Vocabulary

The vocabulary of any one lesson is repeated in subsequent ones.

The Grammar Sections

Grammar discussion develops out of the analysis of the Reading Exercise. The translation sentences from English into Russian also are taken from the Reading Exercise.

FIRST YEAR (RUSSIAN I)

Introduction I (Approximately two weeks)

The Russian Alphabet

In the first two weeks the time will be given to each of the four skills in the following:

Hearing, 50%; Speaking, 30%, Reading, 20%

Russian alphabet will be introduced with the approximate English Sound Equivalents, but there will not be given names of letter. Much easier to learn Russian alphabet and reading by giving the sounds but not the names of the letters in the same time.

Russian Culture

1. Russian alphabet (Cyril and Methodius
2. Linguistic similarity by the various Slavic Nations.
3. U. S. A. "melting pot" and Soviet ethnic groups.

Introduction II (Approximately two weeks)

[illegible]ssian Handwriting

Principal forms of address. The time will be given in the following:

Writing, 40%; Reading, 30%; Speaking, 30%.

Writing will be introduced along with reading and with the same material that student has heard and said many times before.

Russian Culture

People and vases which have lived and settled at the present-day Russia: Slavs, Finns, Tartars, Vikings, and Mongols.

Russian Orthodox Church till 1918.

First Lesson (Approximately one week)

Reading and Conversation

Time will be given in the following:

Hearing, 40%; Speaking, 30%; Reading, 20%; Writing, 10%; (Approximately). Two dictations. Vocabulary test from English into Russian.

Russian Culture

Ethnic Groups--Ukrainian largest ethnic unit. The georgians and Turko-Tartar people. Latvian, Estonian and Lithuanian ethnic groups. Russian schools at the present time.

Second Lesson (Two weeks approximately)

Introduction to the Russian Grammar

Reading and Conversation. Time:

Hearing, 40%; Speaking, 30%; Reading, 20%; Writing, 10%. Individual problems of pronunciation should be treated individually. Two dictations and vocabulary test.

Russian Culture

Old Slavonic language (Church Slavonic). Words borrowed from Tartars. Reign of Peter the Great and new Russian alphabet. Lomonossov and the first Russian grammar.

Third Lesson (Two weeks approximately)

Introduction to the Russian Idioms

Reading, writing, and conversation. Time:

Hearing, 30%; Speaking, 30%; Reading, 30%; Writing, 10%; (approximately). Two dictations. Test--vocabulary and translation from English into Russian.

Russian Culture

French influence and Russian educated upper classes 18, 19 century.

Fourth Lesson (Two weeks approximately)

Russian Cases and English

Nom., Gen., Direct and indirect objects. Reading, writing, conversation. Time:

Hearing, 40%; Speaking, 30%; Reading, 20%; Writing, 10%; (approximately). Test--vocabulary and translation into Russian.

Russian Culture

Pushkin and national language of Russia. Collection of Russian postal stamps will be shown in class. Russian song, "Vescherny Zwon," will be learned in class.

Fifth Lesson (Two weeks approximately)

Introduction to the "Irregular Verbs"

Reading, translation into Russian. Dictation. The time will be given to each of the four skills in the following:

Hearing, 30%; Speaking, 30%; Reading, 20%; Writing, 20%. Test--translation into Russian.

Russian Culture

Soviet-Russian language abbreviated forms of words or acronyms and initials. Certain words, the meaning of which change with the function of words. Russian magazines and newspapers will be shown in class.

Sixth Lesson (Approximately two weeks)

Genetive Case and Negative Expressions with the Genetive Idioms

Translation into Russian Reading. Dictation. Test--translation into Russian.

Russian Cultures

Russian words with variable currency in the vocabulary of English speaking people. Example: Duma, Kulak, sputnik, Troika, tundra. Russian song, "Kalinka." Student after learning the words of this song are going to sing in class.

Seventh Lesson (Approximately two weeks)

Dative Case

Reading and Idioms. Dictation. Conversation. Time will be given for

Hearing, 40%; Speaking, 30%; Reading, 20%; Writing, 10%; (approximately). Dictations. Test--translation into Russian.

Russian Culture

The church and the Russian language.

Two weeks for review from Unit 1 till 8 and preparation for the semester test.

Second Semester

Eighth Lesson (Approximately two weeks)

Instrumental singular of Masculines and Neuters

Reading, conversation, writing. The time will be given: Hearing, 40%; Speaking, 30%; Reading, 30%; Writing, 10%; (approximately). Test--vocabulary and translation into Russian. From the eighth lesson will be used: GRADED RUSSIAN READER, PART ONE by Greene & Ward. Stories in section A.

Russian Culture

U. S. A. "melting pot" and the Soviet ethnic groups.

Nineth Lesson (Two weeks approximately)

Introduction to the Dative Case

Seven idioms. Reading, writing, conversation, dictation. The time will be given:

Hearing, 20%; Speaking, 40%; Reading, 30%; Writing, 10%; (approximately). Test--translation into Russian.

From The Reader stories in section "A" and "B".

Russian Culture

Ancient cities of Kievan Novgorod. Early Kievan history and acceptance of Christianity from Byzantine. Russian

Song: "Night."

Tenth Lesson (Two weeks approximately)

Gentive Case

Reading, writing, and conversation. Translation into Russian and grammar exercises. The time will be given for Hearing, 20%; Speaking, 40%; Reading, 30%; Writing, 10%; (approximately). Test--vocabulary and translation into Russian. From The Reader stories in Section "B."

Russian Culture

Invasion of Russia by the Golden Horde.

Eleventh Lesson (Two weeks approximately)

Accusative Singular of Feminine Nouns and Adjectives

Reading and conversation based on the story, "Grandmother." Translation into Russian 40 sentences. The time will be given for

Hearing, 30%; Speaking, 30%; Reading, 30%; Writing, 10%; (approximately). Test--translation into Russian. From The Reader stories in section "C."

Russian Culture

The first and last Romanov (1613-1917).

Twelfth Lesson (Two weeks or more)

Instrumental Case Will Be Introduced

Common expressions and idioms, approximately 22. Reading, conversation, dictation, and grammar exercises. The time will be given for

Hearing, 30%; Speaking, 30%; Reading and Translation, 30%; Writing, 10%; (approximately). Test--translation into Russian. From The Reader stories in section "D."

Russian Culture

Peter the Great, the first Russian newspaper and public theater.

Thirteenth Lesson (Two weeks or more)

Hard Adjective Singular Declension

Time expressions. Imperative mood. Reading, grammar exercises, and conversation. The time will be given for

Hearing and Conversation, 40%; Reading, 30%; Writing and Translation, 30%; (approximately). Test--translation into Russian. From The Reader stories in section "E."

Russian Culture

Alexander II--the Lincoln of Russia.

Fourteenth Lesson (Two weeks approximately)

Soft Adjective Declension

Possessive pronoun. Future tense. The time will be given for

Hearing and Conversation, 40%; Reading, 30%; Writing and Translation, 30%; (approximately). Dictations. Test--translation into Russian. From The Reader stories in sections "F," "H."

Russian Culture

Revolution of 1917

Fifteenth Lesson (Two weeks approximately)

Short Form of the Adjective

Declension of the interrogative pronoun. Reflexive verb. The time will be given for:

Hearing and Conversation, 40%; Reading, 30%; Writing and translation, 30%; (approximately). From The Reader stories in sections "G" and "K." Test--translation into Russian.

Russian Culture

The nineteenth century--The "Golden Age" of Russian literature and arts in general. Russian greatest poet, Alexander Pushkin.

Two weeks for the review and preparation for the final test.